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New Leadership at Directed Energy Directorate

by Deb Mercurio, Directed Energy Directorate

KIRTLAND AIR FORCE BASE, N.M. — Air Force officials announced May 30 that Dr. L. Bruce Simpson will replace Dr. R. Earl Good, who retired April 4, as the director of the Air Force Research Laboratory's Directed Energy Directorate.

Lt. Col. Thomas A. Buter, deputy commander of the 46th Test Group at Holloman Air Force Base, N.M., will replace Col. Mark D. Stephen as the deputy director.

Simpson is the director for Special Projects System Program Office, Air Armament Center, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida, and has over 20 years of federal service. A balance of his time was spent in the Air Force Research Laboratory's Munitions Directorate where he became the technical director for the Assessments and Demonstration Division. During this time, his experience managing research and development activities was instrumental in the transitioning of technologies to the warfighter.

He has served as the focal point for Air Force armament and been responsible for planning, developing, testing, acquiring and sustaining all armament for the United States Air Force.

The Rome, Ga., native has bachelor's and master's degrees (1981 and 1984, respectively) in aerospace engineering from Auburn University and the University of Florida. He received a doctorate degree in engineering in 1988 at Mississippi State University.

His certifications include Level III System Planning, Research, Development and Engineering, Level III Program Management, and Level I Test and Evaluation.

Simpson is a Distinguished Fellow from the Mississippi State University and is an Associate Fellow of the American Institute of Aeronautics and Astronautics. He is a board member of the National Defense Industrial Association.

He has been recognized as the Air Force Research Laboratory's Munitions Directorate Most Valuable Person and has received its quarterly and annual technical achievement awards. In addition to these, he has received the Air Force Systems Command Annual Technical Achievement Award. @



Dr. L. Bruce Simpson